



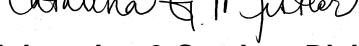
OPERATIONS MEMO

Update of the California Student Aid Commission

November 21, 2008

GOM 2008-25

TO: Financial Aid Directors
School of Education Deans
APLE Coordinators
California Association of Private Special Education Schools

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SUBJECT: Assumption Program of Loans for Education (APLE)
Nonpublic Special Education Schools

The purpose of this Operations Memo is to clarify the eligibility criteria for Assumption Program of Loans for Education (APLE) benefits regarding APLE participants who plan to teach at nonpublic special education schools that contract with public school districts.

While APLE benefits are generally provided to those who teach in public elementary or secondary schools, APLE participants employed in nonpublic special education schools that contract with public school districts are also eligible for APLE benefits.

California Education Code Section 56365(b) stipulates that pupils enrolled in nonpublic, nonsectarian schools and agencies under this section shall be deemed to be enrolled in public schools for all purposes of Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 41600) of Part 24 and Section 42238. The local educational agency shall be eligible to receive allowances under Articles 3 (commencing with Section 56836.165) and 4 (commencing with Section 56836.20) of Chapter 7.2 for services that are provided to individuals with exceptional needs pursuant to the contract.

Additionally, California Education Code Section 69613.1, among other provisions, specifies that the Superintendent of Public Instruction will furnish the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) with the following:

- A list of teaching fields with the most critical shortage of teachers; and
- A list of shortage areas including the state special schools as a category separate from special education.



State of California
Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

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Also, California Education Code Section 69613.4 (b) requires that the participant has provided full-time classroom instruction in a public elementary or secondary school for the equivalent of one school year.

Commission staff uses the California Department of Education's (Special Education Division) certified list of "Nonpublic, Nonsectarian Schools and Agencies" that meet the established standards. The database can be found at:

<http://www3.scoe.net/npsa/index/index.cfm?fuseaction=basicSearch&CFID=1616504&CFTOKEN=21606086>

State certification implies only that the listed schools meet the minimal standards of the laws and regulations. State certification is not an endorsement of the services offered by the nonpublic, nonsectarian schools and agencies. The database is continually updated upon receipt, review, and approval of information submitted by the nonpublic, nonsectarian schools and agencies.

The Commission will continue its current practice which dictates that if the participant's school of employment is on the list of certified schools posted, which is continually updated by the California Department of Education, and the participant has met all other program requirements, the Commission will provide APLE loan assumption benefits to the participant.

If you have any questions regarding the information contained in this Operations Memo, please contact the Specialized Programs Operations Branch at specialized@csac.ca.gov or Linda Brown at (916) 464-2646.

Working together to effectively promote education beyond high school!